



Safety & Training Division

540-443-1540

btransit@blacksburg.gov

Stale Green Light Procedure

A Stale Green Light is:

- Any light that is green when first encountered.
- Any green light that has been green for an extended time and confidence is low that it will remain green.

When approaching a stale green light:

1. **Anticipate** that the light will change and be prepared.
 - a. Adjust speed of the vehicle by easing up on the accelerator.
 - b. Scan intersection for trigger vehicles, watch crosswalk signs, watch behavior of other drivers.
2. Continue to the intersection until the vehicle reaches the point-of-no-return.
 - a. If the light remains green, continue through intersection if safe to do so.
 - b. If the vehicle has reached the point-of-no-return and then the light turns yellow, proceed through intersection, if safe to do so.
3. If light changes prior to the vehicle reaching the point-of-no-return, stop the vehicle.
4. Do not accelerate the vehicle to make the light. Accelerating means there would have been time to stop.

What is the point-of-no-return?

- Based on the vehicle braking distance, it is the point at which the vehicle can no longer be stopped safely behind the stop bar. Will vary with operator proficiency, road condition, speed, vehicle loading, etc.

Things to remember:

1. Always be prepared to stop.
2. Scan each intersection prior to and through the intersection.
3. Proceed through a stale green light only when safe to do so and at a safe speed.